accident-prone areas; introduction of Area Traffic Control System to ensure safe and smooth flow of traffic; prosecution of traffic violator through interceptors, Red Speed Check Camera and Simputer; monitoring of traffic through Traffic Monitoring System; *etc.*

Incessant rains in Tamil Nadu

1788. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the incessant rain claimed many lives and caused an extensive damage to standing crops in Tamil Nadu recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any Central team visited Tamil Nadu to make survey about the damage caused by rain; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RADHIKA V. SELVI): (a) to (d) As per the memorandum received from the Government of Tamil Nadu, heavy torrential rains due to cyclone during last week of November, 2008 resulted in floods, taking a toll of 186 human lives and 3942 cattle lives besides damage to agricultural and horticultural crops *e.g.* paddy, millets, pulses, cotton, sugarcane, oilseeds, coconut/oilpalm, over an area of 5.97 lakh ha in various parts of the State.

The State Government of Tamil Nadu has submitted a memorandum projecting additional Central assistance amounting to Rs. 3789 crore for relief operations of immediate nature as well as undertaking permanent restoration in the affected areas. Upon receipt of the memorandum, an Inter-Ministerial Team was constituted for an on-the-spot assessment of damage and requirement of funds, which visited the State during 7-11th December, 2008. Further action will be taken on receipt of report of the Central Team.

Pending the processing of the memorandum of the State Government, advance releases of 2nd installment of the Central share of Calamity Relief Fund for the year 2008-2009 amounting to Rs. 90.76 crore as well Central share of CRF for the year 2009-2010 amounting to Rs. 47.65 crore have been made on 12th December, 2008. Earlier, 1st installment of the Central share of CRF for the year 2008-2009, amounting to Rs. 90.76 crore was released on 10th April, 2008.

Request from States for funds under MPF

1789. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any request from various State Governments to sanction additional funds for modernisation of Police Force in view of increased terrorist activities and naxalite violence; and